

MEMORANDUM FOR Garrison Commander, United States Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon, Fort Gordon, Georgia 30905-5020

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Fort Gordon Officer and Enlisted Retiree Councils

1. The Fort Gordon Officer and Enlisted Retiree Councils met in joint session at Fort Gordon on 5 May 2005. The purpose of this meeting was to address subjects of interest to Army retirees in the Fort Gordon area of responsibility and to determine if there were matters that should be reported to the Garrison Commander, Fort Gordon, or through her to the Commanding General, Fort Gordon, or through her to the Chief of Staff, Army Retiree Council, and Department of the Army, for consideration.

2. The following Officer and Enlisted Council members were present:

COL (Ret) Everett Greenwood, Co-Chairman	SGM (Ret) Richard Downs, Co-Chairman
COL (Ret) Webster E. Francis, Jr.	CSM (Ret) James Huggins
COL (Ret) Thom E. Tuckey	CSM (Ret) James Hussey
MAJ (Ret) John Anchor	1SG (Ret) Rickey Lumpkin
CPT (Ret) William J. Barnard, Secretary	1SG (Ret) Theola B. Melton
CW4 (Ret) Stefanos Kariotis	SFC (Ret) Jack Baker
Mrs. Nancy Moore	SFC (Ret) Alfred S. Zamora
Mrs. Betty Dodd	PFC (Ret) Karenann Burkhardt-Amster

3. The following Officer and Enlisted Council members were absent:

COL (Ret) William Mannel	SGM (Ret) Clyde E. Hyde, Jr.
CW4 (Ret) Boni Buoni	SFC (Ret) James O. McCormick

4. COL (Ret) Greenwood and SGM (Ret) Richard Downs called the meeting to order at 1000 and welcomed all Council members and guests. SGM (Ret) Downs welcomed new councils member 1SG (Ret) Ricky Lumpkin, who is assistant principal at Butler High School. COL (Ret) Greenwood welcomed Mr. Willie Battles to the meeting. COL (Ret) Greenwood thanked COL Karen Adams, Garrison Commander, for attending. COL (Ret) Greenwood stated that the topic would be the Retirement Appreciation Day (RAD), which will be on 7 October 2005 and how to make it better than before and various installations will be contacted to gain ideas. The Retirement Services Officer (RSO) has asked everyone who attended previous RADs, to present ideas. The RSO has asked the Noncommissioned Officers Academy to assist with RAD.

5. Mr. Brewington stated that Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) will provide some items for the door prizes. COL (Ret) Greenwood said he wanted to interject the fact that LTC (Ret) John Dubia would be attending the Retiree Appreciation Dinner as the guest speaker.

6. Mr. Governaski, Commissary, said there is currently a case lot sale going on and copies of the items and their costs were provided to Council members. The Council and Commissary will discuss the denominations of gift certificates that will be donated for the RAD; however, Mr. Governaski stated that the minimum donation would be \$500, probably in \$50 certificates. They will also be giving away some appliances such as microwaves, dishwashers, refrigerators, washers/dryers and whatever else can be obtained. Everything will be ready for pick up the week before. Mr. Governaski also stated there would be a cake at the entrance and some other things for the retirees. SGM (Ret) Downs said that at the last RAD the retirees were very appreciative of what the Commissary gave away. He also thanked AAFES for all they are doing for retirees.

7. Miss Kathleen Haskell, EAMC Marketing and Advertising, sat in for LTC Baker. She stated that they will be providing some giveaways such as calculators, small radios, and possibly other items. At each of the stations they will have everything that LTC Baker had gone over with the Council at the last meeting. COL (Ret) Greenwood summarized the activities planned at Darling Hall. There will be various information sessions such as, education, information, and they will have some handout materials. The agency activities will be discussed that affect Retirees who utilize EAMC. Ms. Boyce, RSO, said the list included foot screens, chair aerobics, seminars on diabetics, memory loss, confusion, alertness, combating physical security, TRICARE for Life, etc. Ms. Haskell said the biggest push is on education and they are also thinking of doing a round robin at possibly 0930, 1030, and 1330. Mrs. Nancy Moore suggested feedback evaluation of each session, using a smiley face, sad face, a straight face, and a comment section. She also suggested collecting these at the end of each session instead of waiting to the end of the program.

8. Mr. Tom Green, Director, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR), stated they will have coupons and information about their operation to be placed in individual gift bags for the RAD.

9. COL (Ret) Greenwood stated that Public Affairs Office (PAO) was not present but it would be good time to get advertising problems covered as quickly as possible. Ms. Boyce was asked to write a short article about the RAD for submission to target the approximately 20,000 retirees in the Fort Gordon area. Ms. Moore mentioned that we need to contact the Augusta Chronicle. SGM (Ret) Downs suggested getting information to all of the local television and radio stations on key days prior to RAD. SGM (Ret) Downs suggested a strong advertising campaign. Ms. Kathleen Haskell mentioned that using the television monitor at EAMC to advertise the RAD to retirees at the EAMC Pharmacy area. CSM (Ret) Hussy mentioned publicity for RAD could be in the public service announcements on television, radio, and newspapers. COL (Ret) Greenwood stated all information pertaining to our RAD, TRICARE for Life, and TRICARE for those less than 65 years-of-age, and all other healthcare should be followed through the PAO. COL (Ret) Greenwood opened the floor for comments from the installation representatives. SFC (Ret) Jack Baker asked if we were going to have flyers at the Commissary, PX, and PXtra publicizing the RAD. Mr. Joe Governaski said he could place flyers in bags at the commissary and this would assist in getting the word out sooner. Mr. Kent Burlington, AAFES, added placing flyers at the Sportsman Club would help reach those retirees that enjoy those activities. CSM (Ret) Hussy said the many holidays coming up such as Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day, are a good opportunity to coordinate with our flyers and announcements through PAO. SGM (Ret) Downs asked if we could go to all the counties in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) without permission from the PAO. He said he would try and check with Mr. Whitehead about this particular subject. COL (Ret) Greenwood excused installation representatives and called the Council to a short break.

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10. COL (Ret) Greenwood and SGM (Ret) Downs called the meeting back to order. COL (Ret) Greenwood remarked on the By-Laws of the Fort Gordon Retiree Council. There are documents that do not agree with each other, mainly the By-laws and constitution that should be corrected soon; however tabled further discussion until after the RAD. The RSO provided copies of the Annual Report of the Chief of Staff of the Army, Retiree Council meeting of 17-22 April 2005, and a copy of the Memorandum of Instruction for the Fort Gordon Retiree Appreciation Day of 2003.

11. Ms. Boyce, RSO, said there are number of donations to be picked up or coordinated with the vendors. CPT (Ret) Barnard agreed to pick up the magnets from Martina's Flowers and Council members signed up for committee participation. SGM (Ret) Downs said if provided a list of potential donors, he would have copies of letters sent out. Ms. Boyce stated she made arrangements with the Signal Officer Basic Class to help with the clean up and other areas of work for RAD. The Gordon Club has been reserved. Arrangements are being made to have a fly-over sometime during the noon hour on RAD. COL (Ret) Greenwood stated all members should sign up for the registration committee so times can be rotated to allow mingling with the participants. CPT (Ret) Barnard said that at the last RAD, it was successful to rotate every 45 minutes to 1 hour. SGM (Ret) Downs stated that at the last RAD, some of the organizations who might have donated items did not respond and it was a rush to contact them and suggested the need for follow up this year because businesses need to be reminded. About 500 gift bags are needed for items vendors may donate at the RAD registration. COL (Ret) Greenwood said that Association of the United States Army had been sent a letter requesting \$500 support. CPT (Ret) Barnard said he would ask Military Officers Association of America at their next meeting for a donation.

11. COL (Ret) Greenwood asked COL (Ret) Thom Tuckey for an update on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). COL (Ret) Tuckey said not much has changed since the last council meeting on 28 February 2005, but that the BRAC list should be out on Friday, 13 May 05. He said the Alliance is not going away and he will be working with it for a few years.

12. The next Retiree Council will be on Thursday, 4 Augusta 2005 at 1000 hours in the Garrison Commander's Conference Room. Topics will include donations, door prizes, and the dinner menu.

13. CSM (Ret) James Hussey reminded Council members of celebrations for downtown and other locations. The Columbia County festivities will be on Saturday, 28 May at 1830 with fireworks at 2100. On Monday, 30 May the Annual Memorial Service will be at 0900 at the Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home and at 1100 at the All Wars Monument. COL (Ret) Greenwood encouraged attendance at either or both services. Also, 14 June is the Army Birthday and Flag Day with there will be a cake cutting and other ceremonies on Fort Gordon.

17. COL (Ret) Tucky and COL (Ret) Greenwood asked the RSO to provide information in the Retiree Notes on ceremonies such as the Change of Command for Brigadier General Schoomaker's replacement so council members can try to attend.

18. SFC (Ret) Alfred Zamora said Jim Nicholson, Secretary of Veteran's Affairs, would be in Augusta the middle of July or first week of August visiting both hospital locations.

19. SFC (Ret) Alfred Zamora remarked that the handicapped parking at Darling Hall, EAMC, and other facilities on post are being occupied by employees. COL (Ret) Greenwood also said the leaving of shopping carts in the parking lots of the Commissary, PX, and PXtra was causing safety problems.

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20. COL (Ret) Greenwood thanked everyone for attending and announced that the next meeting will be on 4 August 2005, at 1000 in the Garrison Commander's Conference room. The meeting was adjourned at 1145 hours.



EVERETT O. GREENWOOD
COL, USA (Retired)
Chairman
Officer Retiree Council



RICHARD H. DOWNS
SGM, USA (Retired)
Chairman
Enlisted Retiree Council